

Abstract of the Disclosure

91

The invention provides a method and system for interaction with a community of individuals, relating to compliance with a treatment regimen, including supply and use of pharmaceuticals, using a protocol or other intelligent message that acts in place of a service provider and which is capable of collecting or imparting information to individuals in place thereof. Individuals interact with the protocol or intelligent message to provide assistance in all aspects of treatment regimen compliance, data collection, supply, review and modification. These aspects can include (1) reminders regarding compliance with a selected treatment regimen, such as taking medication at selected times, or refraining from selected combinations of medication and foods or activities; (2) data collection of facts regarding patient compliance and possible drug interaction or side effects of the medication; (3) networked integration with workstations for a pharmacist or a physician to automate approvals, refills, and delivery. A system includes a set of client devices and a server device. A service provider determines a treatment regimen for selected patients, determines a protocol to be followed by the client devices in assisting with that treatment regimen, and sends that protocol to the server device. The server device can update (responsive to the protocol) selected instructions at the client device, and can receive (responsive to selected instructions) information from the client device regarding its associated patient. The client device, located locally to the individual, couples to a portable device (such as a cellular telephone, pager, "Palm Pilot" or other handheld computer, or watch), capable of being carried away by the patient to locations relatively remote from

1 the client device. The client device can interact with the portable device: (1) to provide  
2 the portable device with the capability of reminding the patient regarding the treatment  
3 regimen, or (2) to provide the portable device with the capability of further data collection  
4 regarding the patient. The client device can interact with the portable device using a  
5 docking connection, an infrared connection, a radio-frequency connection, or another  
6 suitable connection.

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